

## **Minutes**

### **The African American Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County**

**June 12, 2014 11:30 AM  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, City Hall**

Members in attendance: Marvin Chambers, Sasha Mitchell, Jan Goffney, Desmond McAfee, Isaac Coleman, Angel Redmond, Johnnie Grant

Members absent: Dr. Lamar Hylton, Phyllis Utley

Council Liaison: Chris Pelly

Staff: Roderick Simmons, Steve Garrison, Alex Carmichael

The meeting began at 11:38 AM.

#### **1. New Business:**

##### **a. Discussion and Adoption of Bylaws – Roderick Simmons, Asheville Parks and Recreation Department**

The meeting began with introductions for new members. Roderick Simmons then introduced draft bylaws and opened the floor for discussion. Sasha Mitchell suggested changing the name of the Commission from the “City of Asheville-Buncombe County Joint African American Heritage Commission” to the “African American Heritage Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County.” After discussing variations, Isaac Coleman motioned to name the Commission the “African American Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County.” Marvin Chambers seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Sasha Mitchell asked if the “secretary” described in the draft bylaws would continue to be Alex Carmichael, or if the secretary would be an officer elected by the Commission. Roderick Simmons answered that the secretary position as described is the City or County Manager or their appointee, and that Alex Carmichael is so appointed.

Isaac Coleman then moved to adopt the bylaws as amended. The motion was seconded by Sasha Mitchell and it carried unanimously.

##### **b. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair – Roderick Simmons, Asheville Parks and Recreation Department**

Roderick Simmons opened the discussion for Chair nominations. Jan Goffney nominated Johnnie Grant. Angel Redmond nominated Lamar Hylton.

Johnnie Grant, Sash Mitchell, Isaac Coleman, and Jan Goffney voted for Johnnie Grant for Chair. Angel Redmond voted for Lamar Hylton for Chair. Johnnie Grant was elected 4-1 as Chair of the African American Heritage Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County.

Isaac Coleman nominated Lamar Hylton as Vice-Chair. Johnnie Grant nominated Marvin Chambers. Angel Redmond nominated herself.

Isaac Coleman voted for Lamar Hylton for Vice-Chair. Sasha Mitchell, Jan Goffney, Marvin Chambers, and Johnnie Grant voted for Marvin Chambers for Vice Chair. Desmond McAfee and Angel Redmond voted for Angel Redmond for Vice-Chair. Marvin Chambers was elected with 4 votes as Vice-Chair of the African American Heritage Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County.

Roderick Simmons turned the meeting over to Chairwoman Grant.

**c. Meeting Dates and Times – Johnnie Grant, Chair**

Chairwoman Grant asked if the current meeting dates and times were convenient. The Commission discussed the difficulty of summer schedules. Five members must be in attendance to constitute a quorum (as stated in the adopted bylaws.) Notifications and minutes will be distributed the Friday prior to a meeting.

Isaac Coleman moved to hold the regular meetings on the second Thursday of the month at 11:30 AM in the first floor conference room of City Hall. This motion was seconded by Sasha Mitchell and carried unanimously.

**d. Retreat Planning – Roderick Simmons, Asheville Parks and Recreation Department**

The Commission discussed the date and time of the planning retreat. The retreat will be located in the 6<sup>th</sup> floor training room of City Hall. Multiple members noted that they would be unavailable on the second Thursday of July and it was suggested that the planning retreat occur on the third Thursday instead.

Marvin Chambers moved that the Chair and Vice-Chair meet with staff to develop and agenda for the planning retreat and poll Commission members to determine a suitable date and time. The motion was seconded by Isaac Coleman and carried unanimously.

**2. Old Business:**

- a.** Sasha Mitchell distributed a copy of *Cross Roads*, a publication of the North Carolina Humanities Council.

Marvin Chambers moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Isaac Coleman and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM.